

Subject: The Cedillo Weekly 9/26/14

From: "Gilbert Cedillo" <Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org>

Date: 09/26/2014 06:12 PM

To: "mistyli@aol.com" <mistyli@aol.com>



Friends,

Two important items came to City Council this week, one I supported and the other I did not support. In the Art, Parks, Health, Aging & River Committee an item came forth to prohibit vending in parks.

I did not support the item for the reason that I believe the enforcement penalty of getting a misdemeanor as a violation is too severe and would hurt individuals from the First District who are on a path to seek citizenship. Enforcement should be equitable and I feel the ordinance would target a specific group, which is unjust.

The second item came to City Council was raising the minimum wage for hotel workers. I support a living wage. This is a first step in the right direction, and I believe that we must move forward on providing a living wage for all Los Angeles workers.

Finally, I was pleased that last week the Department of Homeland Security approved a design of a driver license for undocumented immigrants in California. I look forward to the implementation of AB 60 on January 1, 2015 and Team Cedillo is getting ready to educate residents of the First District on how to obtain a driver license to make our streets safer.

Sincerely,

Gilbert A. Cedillo
Councilmember, First District

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Hotel Minimum Wage

This past Wednesday, the City Council heard from the Chief Legislative Analyst, City Administrative Officer and City Attorney on a proposed ordinance to raise the minimum wage of hotel workers to \$15.37 an hour. We voted for the proposal and it passed City Council with a 12 to 3 vote. We believe that we must provide a living wage to our workers so they are able to afford to live in adequate housing and provide food for their families.

Housing Committee

This week, we continued to emphasize the need to find ways to increase funding for the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). The committee voted to approve five pending motions which call for a report from the Housing Department relative to major funding options for the increased production of affordable housing. The report is due to come back to committee in 60 days.

Art Parks, Health, Aging & River Committee

We heard an ordinance in the Committee to amend the municipal code to revise a previously suspended prohibition on vending in public parks. The proposed ordinance included specific penalties for violating the revised ordinance. I opposed the ordinance, but it passed the committee with a 3-2 vote.

FIELD UPDATE

Grammy Museum

On Saturday, we launched a music education program by co-sponsored by my office and the Grammy museum. The program began Saturday September 20th at the Grammy Museum. Students from Roybal High School, Miguel Contreras High School, Miramar High School, Downtown Magnet, Berendo Middle School and John Leichthy Middle School joined together for the first class that featured a history of Latino Music in Los Angeles. The students will be guided through the process of songwriting by a number of experienced musicians and instructors. The final performance will be held at the historic Park Plaza Hotel in Westlake.

(photo credit: Ana Gomez)

Ambulante

On Sunday September 21, hundreds of movie goers joined Team Cedillo and Ambulante to kick off a two week documentary series film festival. The documentary short "Ink & Paper" preceded the opening night film Bronx Obama. The documentary follows Louis Ortiz on his journey to becoming a professional Barack Obama impressionist. It was an incredible night that showcased the importance of much needed quality programming at MacArthur Park throughout the year. We are a proud supporter of Ambulante and their mission to create safe public spaces through film.

(photo credit: Ana Gomez)

Pacific Martial Arts Anniversary

On Saturday September 20, it was an honor to celebrate the first anniversary and ribbon cutting of Pacific Martial Arts in Glassell Park. Master Jason Knight and his wife, Jennifer Knight, opened their school in July 2013 and expanded this month by adding another dojo. The school has 150 students in five different programs from ages two to Adult. Each program focuses on the unique developmental and athletic needs of each particular age group. The program goal is to help each student develop into well-rounded leaders in their communities. At Pacific Martial Arts, karate is not just cool, but you also learn to value social responsibility and leadership. We wish to thank Lemon Poppy Kitchen for the great food that made everyone smile.

(photo credit: Jose Rodriguez)

The Wall Las Memorias Project 20 Anniversary

Last Friday, we were honored to celebrate the Wall Las Memorias' 20 year anniversary at the beautiful LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes. The Wall Las Memorias has been providing a safe environment for the community to have an open dialogue about the real issues around AIDS and HIV and sexuality, which is a difficult subject for many Latino families. We are very proud to have the first publicly funded AIDS monument in the First District. The AIDS monument pays homage to our brothers and sisters that have been plagued by AIDS, but unfortunately, new names are being added to the list every year. I congratulate and thank our good friend Richard Zaldivar for his 20 years of service to the LGBTQ community.

Best Community Outreach Award

We would like to congratulate the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council for receiving the Best Community Outreach Award by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

(photo credit: Martha Benedict)

Good Luck Montecito Hts. Senior Lead Officer John Pedroza

The Montecito Ht. Home Improvement Association recognized LAPD Senior Lead Officer John Pedroza before he retires from the LAPD at the end of this October. He has served 33 years with the department, with 30 at the Hollenbeck Station. Officer Pedroza spent his career at LAPD in Communications, Narcotics and the Southeast Division before his home away from home at Hollenbeck. He has been a SLO Officer since 1993. John will be missed by the community. We want to thank him for his dedicated service!

Grand Plaza Tenant Meeting

Coalition for Economic Survival Director of Organizing Carlos Aguilar, together with Attorneys from Public Counsel, met with Tenant Leaders from the 302-unit Grand Plaza Apartments in Chinatown on Sept 22, to Plan Strategies to uphold their rights. This was a follow-up to the large Aug 20 tenant meeting. The mostly Chinese-speaking tenants at this low-income government assisted building had received a 5% rent increase in June, which may be illegal. The Chinese-speaking tenants had also received a new lease agreement that was 43 pages and in English. CES was originally contacted by Team Cedillo requesting CES' help in assisting tenants.

(photo credit: Sharon Lowe)

Celebrating 31 Years at CARECEN

Thursday evening I was able to celebrate 31 years of advocacy with CARECEN. It was a great evening, I was honored to participate in this milestone gala and thank Martha Arevalo, Executive Director and the entire organization for all of their hard work.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CERT Earthquake Disaster Drill in Mt. Washington needs Volunteers!

Team Cedillo is proud to sponsor the Mt Washington Jessica Square Earthquake Disaster Drill: the Final Planning and Volunteer coordination meeting is being held Tuesday, Sept 30 at 7PM at the Holy Virgin Mary Coptic Orthodox Church, 4900 Cleland Ave (corner of Terrace 49). We need to sign up volunteers to participate in the Neighborhood CERT Earthquake Disaster Drill to be held at the Church on October 18. Please come and help us finalize this neighborhood preparedness event.

This is a great way to practice your CERT skills or learn what it's all about. Find out more at: www.mtwashingtonjessica.org

If you can't make the meeting and still want to participate on 10/18, email: info@mtwashingtonjessica.org or Sylvia.robledo@lacity.org

Handyworker Program

The Handyworker Program provides free minor home repairs for low-income seniors and disabled persons who own and occupy a single family home in the City of Los Angeles.

Homeowners must be 62 years old or have a disability, have an income that is less than the required maximum (see flyer). The repairs address safety and habitability concerns, including doors, windows, flooring, faucets, sinks, toilets, water heater, light fixtures, electrical outlets, railings, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, rain gutters and painting.

The Program also provides for the installation of safety and security devices for eligible homeowners and renters. Participants must be 62 years or older or disabled, have an income that is less than the required maximum.

For more information contact the Housing + Community Investment Department at (213) 808-8803.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Chinese Alive!

Create LA

Highland Park Independent Film Festival

Dia de los Muertos

Ambulante Film Festival

If you would like to be added to our newsletter or for article submission or calendar events please submit to Louis.reyes@lacity.org every Wednesday by 1:00 pm deadline to be published in the upcoming Friday edition. We reserve the right to copy edit or refuse submissions.

This message was sent to mistyli@aol.com by:

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